



Surpassing Expectations

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KY EXCEL Announces New Members

Because preparations for the Governor's Conference on the Environment kept us busy over the past few months, it has been a while since we sent out our last newsletter. This means that we now have more than two dozen new members to welcome in this newsletter. Please take the time to read through this remarkable list and help us welcome our newest members. Each one has volunteered to perform environmental projects to improve the environment in Kentucky.

McCammish Manufacturing, Columbia Division (Partner member) – McCammish joined KY EXCEL on Sept. 22. It plans to reduce lacquer used in finishing furniture and furniture components, perform a joint environmental project with Adair County High School and reduce the amount of saw dust sent to the landfill for its projects.

Blue Grass Army Depot (Master member) – This Richmond facility became a member Sept. 28. It has volunteered to implement and conform to ISO 14001 Certification, and implement the Lean Six Sigma. Additionally, it will conduct a reforestation project to widen the riparian zone along Muddy Creek and other tributaries by planting 50,000 tree seedlings.

Associated General Contractors of Kentucky (Advocate member) – Associated General Contractors of Kentucky, headquartered in Frankfort, was accepted into KY EXCEL on Oct. 6. It has resolved to educate the construction industry of Kentucky of the important role it plays in reducing emissions from diesel engines through a three-tiered approach. The three tiers include education and outreach, incentives for voluntary diesel emission reduction and promotion of the successful voluntary diesel emission reduction projects.

Eastern KY PRIDE (Advocate member) – Somerset's Eastern KY PRIDE organization became a member on Oct. 6. For its KY EXCEL project it will be conducting an electronic scrap recycling event in Pulaski County.

Hyatt Regency Lexington (Advocate member) – The Hyatt was accepted into membership Oct. 12. It has committed to using less water and detergent on a daily basis with employee and guest participation.

New Members, continued...

Kentucky American Water (Master member) – This Fayette County utility was welcomed into membership Oct. 16. Its projects are providing financial assistance to the annual Reforest the Bluegrass riparian reforestation project; planting wildlife-friendly vegetation, practicing wildlife-friendly mowing, maintaining a wetland area and installing additional bird boxes on its property as a member of the Kentucky Business Conservation Partnership. It will continue sponsorship of the Kentucky American Water Ripple Effect Scholarship program for high school seniors and provide sole corporate sponsorship for the Kentucky American Water Science Fair for Fayette County public, private and home-schooled students grades 4 thru 12.

ISP CHEMICALS Inc. (Master member) – This Marshall County industry joined Oct. 19. Its voluntary project commitments include building a new aboveground wastewater treatment plant, installing a hard-pipe conveyance system for all process waste waters, installing secondary containment on high priority tanks and overflow protection alarms and/or automatic overflow shutoffs, and closing and remediating old waste water conveyance trenches and lagoons including dredging and proper disposal of wastewater sediments from both.

Central Kentucky Fiber Resources LLC (Partner member) – Central Kentucky Fiber's membership was endorsed Oct. 24. Its goal is to monitor and improve the fuel efficiency of its tractor fleet. The company is located in Lexington.

Mountain Association for Community Economic Development Inc. (MACED) (Advocate member) – This Berea business had its membership approved on Oct. 31. Its plan is to replace all regular holiday lights with LED lights.

KinderCare Learning Center #300418

(Advocate member) – KinderCare's application was approved Oct. 31. Its project is to implement cardboard and paper recycling from the classrooms, kitchen and offices. The Louisville center will be involving the children in this project.

Humana Incorporated (Advocate member)

– Humana joined KY EXCEL on Nov. 6. The company, which is headquartered in Louisville, is educating management and staff about environmental issues and sustainability. It plans to identify what it is doing for the environment, what more can be done and how every associate can contribute at work and at home.

Engineering Consulting Services, Inc.

(Advocate member) – This Lexington group became a member Nov. 6. It has committed to evaluating waste paper streams and eliminating waste paper going to the landfill.

Swedish Match North America Inc. (Master member)

– Swedish Match North America was accepted into membership Nov 6. The Owensboro facility will replace current emergency lighting with LED lighting; develop a visitor information packet of rules and requirements for environmental management, safety and quality; convert environmental management system and quality management system controls to have the same format; recycle laminated cardboard and reduce paper usage by eliminating work order cover sheets; reduce kilowatt-hour consumption for lighting by 5 percent by retrofitting fluorescent lamps; and create an internal Material Safety Data Sheet on all compound flavors as its voluntary commitments.

New Members, continued...

Kentucky Solar Living, LLC (Advocate member) – This Madison County business became a member Nov. 8. Its goals include providing a \$50 donation per solar water heater it sells to Kentucky Natural Lands Trust; providing financial support for the Green Building Seminar to educate builders on the benefits of solar applications in homes; and assisting students and teachers with inventories and student work pages as a Business Partner for Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools.

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center (Advocate member) – The center became a member Nov. 8. It has committed to building a near-zero energy home in western Kentucky as part of GREEN – Giving Real Environmental Education Now.

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (Leader member) – LFUCG became a member on Nov. 13 and has committed to 17 different voluntary projects. It plans to coordinate efforts with UK, Fayette County Public Schools and LexTran to use biodiesel fuel in diesel-powered vehicles and construction equipment. It will promote the following: sustainability through its partnership in the Bluegrass Partnership for a Green Community by undertaking specific projects; the composting of yard waste and brush for use as mulch; and the Energy Star Change a Light campaign to community and employees. LFUCG will be conducting quarterly electronic recycling events for Fayette County residents; implementing its energy management initiatives to become more energy efficient through low-cost and no-cost options; supporting environmentally preferable purchasing from energy-efficient office equipment to low mercury content fluorescent bulbs including remanufactured ink cartridges and recycled paper products as part of its project commitment. Additionally, it will promote the Great American Cleanup to collect garbage, debris, trash, used tires and appliances;

promote and participate in the Kentucky River Clean Sweep; preserve the green space, water and air quality in Fayette County through the purchase of development rights program; collect and recycle rechargeable batteries; promote recycling in schools, businesses and apartments with the "one-sort-plus" glass system. It will plant 5,000 tree seedlings as part of its participation in Reforest the Bluegrass; participate in the US Mayors' City Recycling Challenge to collect and recycle aluminum beverage cans in competition with cities of similar size. LFUCG will continue its Tree City USA designation commitment to planting trees in the City; recycle burned out lamps, batteries and fluorescent light ballast generated by operations as part of the Universal Waste Collection Program; and promote and support white appliance recycling.

Tom and Debbie Griswold Residence (Advocate member) – The Griswolds, from Jessamine County, became KY EXCEL members on Nov. 14. For their KY EXCEL project, they will be restoring 5 acres of land by eliminating honeysuckle, planting nut trees, establishing grapevines, cultivating ginseng and reforesting cane.

ECO-CELL (Advocate member) – This Louisville business became a member Nov. 15. It plans to establish a cell phone recycling program in the library system across the commonwealth of Kentucky.

EarthSafe (Advocate member) – This Washington County membership became effective on Nov. 15. EarthSafe will be conducting training on industrial spill containment.

Kentucky Water and Wastewater Operators' Association (Advocate member) – KWWOA became a member Nov. 15. Headquartered in Frankfort, it will be conducting over 220 hours of continuing education hours through classes offered across the state as its project.

New Members, continued...

AGC Automotive Americas (Master member) – This Elizabethtown plant joined Nov. 15. The project commitments include eliminating liquid mercury by replacing all mercury switches, reducing waste going to the landfill by 10 percent, reducing hazardous waste by 3 percent and mentoring a company through KY EXCEL.

Microbac Laboratories Inc. (Advocate member) – Louisville's Microbac joined KY EXCEL on Nov. 17. It is presenting a program to a group of high school students to introduce them to opportunities for success in the laboratory testing industry.

The Earth Angels and Community Hearth, Ind. (TEACH, Inc.) (Advocate member) – TEACH, Inc.'s application was approved Nov. 21. Its project is to sponsor an Earth Day festival to promote environmental education and create community awareness for conservation and sustainability. The organization is located in Lancaster.

Northern Kentucky Water District (NKWD) (Leader member) – Northern Kentucky Water District was accepted into membership Nov. 21. Its projects include conducting a recycling program for paper, plastic, cans and glass at three treatment plants and the water quality laboratory; implementing a green space beautification program by growing oak saplings; purchasing Energy Star appliances and further reducing electrical consumption through the installation of motion sensors at unmanned pump stations.

Lexmark International Inc (Master member) – Lexmark joined KY EXCEL Nov. 22. The company plans to organize and implement an information awareness campaign to ensure all employees, contractors and visitors know its environmental policy. It also plans to create and implement a combined ISO 14001 Environmental Management System and OHSAS

18001 Occupational Health and Safety Management System. The Lexington facility's other projects are organizing and providing for office recycling of various materials including paper, cartridges, plastic drink bottles, and aluminum cans; recycling paper from product test and supply test centers; recycling fluorescent bulbs; recycling batteries; recycling carpet and ceiling tiles; and recycling office supplies and furniture. It will also promote its commitment to the environment through an Earth Day celebration including tree seedling giveaways, a 5K run/walk, informational seminars, car pool sign-ups, bike riding club information and hybrid car shows. Lexmark will also continue to sponsor Reforest the Bluegrass and plant seedlings along Lexington streams in an effort to improve water quality, reduce erosion and enhance the environment.

American Cave Conservation Association (ACCA) (Advocate member) – This Hart County association joined Nov. 27. Its project commitment is the restoration of Saltpeter Cave, which is home to one of the world's largest colonies of Rafinesque's big-eared bats.

Rejeana Thompson (Advocate member) – This Sadieville resident joined Dec. 6. She has volunteered to provide internal auditing of Environmental Management Systems and mentor a company on environmental management activities.

Valley View Arabians (Advocate member) – This Scott County farm joined Dec. 6. Its voluntary project commitments include reducing soil erosion through pasture rotation, improving groundwater quality by cleaning up an old dump on the property, and attracting wildlife through the installation of bird feeders, wild turkey feeders, and mineral salt blocks and maintaining pasture grasses for rabbits. It will also recycle animal waste.

KY EXCEL News

2006 Governor's Conference

This year's 30th Governor's Conference on the Environment allowed KY EXCEL to shine. Thank you to everyone that participated. More than 300 individuals were in attendance, which made this year's conference the largest audience in many years. Attendees included representatives from environmental firms, nonprofit organizations, professional associations, universities and schools, the Kentucky Legislature, city governments and state agencies. We hope that everyone in attendance found the conference to be a positive networking and learning experience. For those that weren't able to attend, the following will give a brief summary of the conference activities.

The first day of the conference started with a KY EXCEL members-only meeting. More than 100 individuals participated, representing 42 of the program's 54 KY EXCEL members. During this meeting, members were able to network, share project ideas and discuss the many reasons for joining the program. Department for Environmental Protection senior management also participated in an open forum with KY EXCEL members. This meeting provided a casual environment for discussing key issues and upcoming program priorities.

Following the KY EXCEL meeting, the Governor's Conference kicked off with a reception and awards dinner that allowed the agency to personally thank the members for their environmental commitments. KY EXCEL members received a standing ovation as each one received an award commending them for their voluntary efforts. It was obvious that the long list of projects being performed by KY EXCEL members made a big impression on everyone in attendance.

The second day of the conference offered a diverse group of sessions covering topics ranging from agency priorities, environmental topics, tools to improve performance and opportunities for leadership. Many of the KY EXCEL members participated in these sessions, and each one did a fantastic job. Many of the presentations offered at these sessions will be posted on the EPPC Web site at <http://www.eppc.ky.gov/>.

The conference exhibit area included 32 exhibitors. Booths stationed by consultants, nonprofit organizations, local governments and state agencies showcased a variety of environmental topics. Many of these exhibitors were KY EXCEL members that were able to share their KY EXCEL projects and experiences to conference attendees.

We have photos available from the conference. If you are interested in electronic copies of these photos or would like to learn more about the conference, contact Lisa Barker at Lisaa.Barker@ky.gov.

Annual Reports

This year's round of project reports will allow the program to document all of the accomplishments achieved by KY EXCEL members over the past year. This information will be used to illustrate the importance of environmental leadership, showcase KY EXCEL members and encourage KY EXCEL membership. Over the next couple of months, KY EXCEL staff will be developing a report template that will eventually be used by members to report this year's results. Before the template is finalized, KY EXCEL members will be given an opportunity to review and comment on the template. Hopefully, this process will help ensure that the annual reports are efficient and simple for everyone to complete. Stay tuned for more details regarding the annual reporting process and submission date.

Upcoming Events

LEED Seminar

On Jan. 23, U.S. EPA will host a free lunchtime teleseminar from noon until 1 p.m. titled "E-Z way to get Info on Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certification for Buildings!"

LEED sets a benchmark for the design, construction and operation of green buildings. It promotes sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health. Those areas include sustainable site development, energy efficiency, water savings, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

Many KY EXCEL members have expressed an interest in green buildings and energy efficiency. If you would like to participate or would like more details, e-mail Michael Kane, with the U.S. EPA, at kane.michael@epa.gov.

Change a Light Campaign

The ENERGY STAR Change a Light, Change the World Campaign is a national call-to-action to encourage individuals to help change the world, one light one energy-saving step at a time. The Change a Light campaign gives everyone an opportunity to conserve energy. Become a pledge driver and encourage employees to participate at home. Access the ENERGY STAR Change A Light home page through this link www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=change_light.changealight_index. Light bulb and light fixture coupons that can help you kick off your savings are available for download at www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=cal.sHowTakeAction#offers. This is a great project idea for KY EXCEL members.

Erosion Control Workshops

The Division of Water has announced four workshops on construction site erosion and sediment control scheduled for early 2007. Excavation contractors, public agency staff, developers, engineering consultants and construction managers will want to attend. Attendance at these workshops is free. For more information regarding this training, please visit the Division of Compliance Assistance's Web site at www.dca.ky.gov and select the "Training Opportunities" link. Workshop dates and locations are:

- Jan.19 – Elizabethtown, Ky.
- Jan. 30 – Hopkinsville, Ky
- Jan. 31 – Henderson, Ky
- Feb. 5 – Ashland, Ky

2008 Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grant Information

The Kentucky Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program is seeking to award grant funds to organizations interested in conducting nonpoint source related projects. Up to \$3.5 million in federal assistance is anticipated to be available. Please refer to the 2008 Grant Guidance document for specific information on this year's funding emphasis and application guidelines. This document can be found at <http://www.water.ky.gov/publicassistance/funding/nps>. The deadline for submitting an Initial Interest Form is Feb. 14, 2007.